

## Dean's Letter, 19 August 2018

Dear Cathedral family

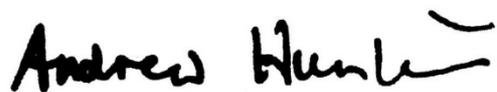
Today is a day of thanks, celebrations and farewells. At the 9.30 a.m. service, we shall be rededicating the South wall windows, and giving thanks for the generosity of those who made this possible. We shall be saying goodbye to one of our Lay Ministers, Vuyokazi de Beer, as she relocates to King Williams Town. And we shall be saying thank you to Paul Walters, who has stepped down as a Lay Minister (except, he said, for emergencies – thank you, Paul!) after some 50 years in this office, and also to Michael Whisson, who has been a Lay Minister for even longer. Our wonderful verger, Mr Timothy Stephen, has accepted a post at Fort England, and started there this past Monday. We have employed Mr Silulami Mize on a trial basis. A former member of the PCC, Catherine Euijen, is leaving this week for a teaching post in Abu Dabi (if her papers are in order). We thank them all for being part of our lives in so many wonderful ways.

Among the most formative years in my young adulthood were the three years I spent up the road at what was then St Paul's Theological College (now the College of the Transfiguration or COTT). Those were the days when ACSA had three residential colleges – St Paul's here in Grahamstown; St Bede's, Mthatha; and St Peter's (Fedsem) in KZN. We are now down to one – the College of the Transfiguration, here in Grahamstown. The picture of theological education and ordained ministry within ACSA is quite different now, but the academic teaching and spiritual and social formation that happens at COTT continues to be of immense value. The plate collection today goes to support the College. The work done there is vital, and of considerable importance for the life and well-being of the church. I encourage our support for this.

We have put the following notice onto student social media:

The Cathedral of St Michael and St George (High Street) wishes to express their heartfelt condolences, thoughts and prayers to those affected by the tragic death of Khensani and the events surrounding it. The Cathedral community is well aware of the pain, suffering and trauma triggered and experienced by the Rhodes Community at large and wishes to provide a place of support in this difficult time. A few of our "parental figures" at the Cathedral are willing to offer a safe, non-judgemental, private, confidential space where anyone can come to "offload", talk and know they will have a compassionate listening ear and the offer of prayer outside of the university atmosphere. This is open to anyone who is in need for an ear or support. Feel free to message these Cathedral Students: Kepa (078-869-0880) Nomvelo (082-363-4156) or Kundai (078-489-6022) who will set up a personal appointment for you.

My love to you all

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Hunt". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.